

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Jennifer M. Lane on 03/27/2008.

Claims *6, 7, 9, 10 and 14-24* are replaced with the following below:

6. An information retrieval system for outputting information, including audio and visual information, received from an information source, the information retrieval system comprising: an RF transceiver configured to receive the information from the information source over a wireless communication channel; a processor coupled to the RF transceiver; and a visual display coupled to the processor and comprising: a housing; a flexible substrate having display circuits imprinted thereon to form a flexible display screen, a top portion of the display screen attached to the housing so that the display screen hangs from the housing; and at least one integrated circuit chip mounted on the display screen, the integrated circuit chip configured to receive control signals from the processor to cause the display to display the visual information received from the information source, the integrated circuit chip further acting as a weight at least partially

causing the display screen to hang substantially straight from the housing; a speaker coupled to the processor, the processor configured to couple audio control signals to the speaker to cause the speaker to output the audio information received from the information source; and a voice processor coupled to the processor and configured to receive a voice command requesting the information from the information source, the RF transceiver further configured to transmit request signals to the information source corresponding to the voice command.

7. The information retrieval system of Claim 6 wherein said at least one integrated circuit chip is contained in a strip at a bottom portion of the display screen.

Claim 8. (cancelled)

9. The information retrieval system of Claim 6 further comprising a spring that winds up and stores energy as said display screen is extended from its stored position to an extended position and upon release urges said display screen from said extended position to said stored position.

10. The information retrieval system of Claim 6 wherein said at least one integrated circuit chip is configured to drive sound-generating devices.

Claims 11-13. (cancelled)

14. An information retrieval system for outputting information, including audio and visual information, received from an information source, the information retrieval system comprising: a flexible substrate having display

circuits carried thereby to form a flexible display screen; an RF transceiver carried on the flexible substrate and configured to receive the information from the information source over a wireless communication channel; a processor carried on the flexible substrate and coupled to the RF transceiver; a display driver circuit carried on the flexible substrate and coupled to the processor, the display driver circuit operable to receive visual information from the information source through the processor and couple control signals to the display circuits to cause the display circuits to display the visual information received from the information source; said display screen having a free end and said RF transceiver, processor and display driver circuit being carried on the free end of said display screen for serving as a weight to cause said display screen to hang substantially straight; a speaker coupled to the processor, the processor configured to couple audio control signals to the speaker to cause the speaker to output the audio information received from the information source; and a voice processor coupled to the processor and configured to receive a voice command requesting the information from the information source, the RF transceiver further configured to transmit request signals to the information source corresponding to the voice command.

15. The information retrieval system of Claim 14 further comprising at least one integrated circuit chip carried by the display screen configured to drive the speaker.

16. The information retrieval system of Claim 6 wherein said at least one integrated circuit chip includes speech recognition circuits.

17. The information retrieval system of Claim 14 further comprising a speech recognition circuit carried by the display screen.
18. The information retrieval system of Claim 6 wherein the at least one integrated circuit chip includes a micro-controller chip, a display driver chip and a radio-frequency chip.
19. The information retrieval system of Claim 14 further comprising a micro-controller chip, a display driver chip and a radio-frequency chip carried by the display screen.
20. The information retrieval system of Claim 14 wherein the free end of the display screen includes an electronics box, the display circuit being positioned in the electronics box.
21. The information retrieval system of Claim 6 further comprising a spring coupled to the housing and the display screen for winding the display screen up into the housing for storage.
22. The information retrieval system of Claim 21 further comprising an interlock positioned in the housing and coupled to the spring for preventing the spring from winding the display screen up into the housing while the display screen is in use.
23. An information retrieval system for outputting information, including audio and visual information, received from an information source, the information retrieval system comprising a display station comprising: an RF

transceiver configured to receive the information from the information source over a wireless communication channel; a processor coupled to the RF transceiver; and a visual display coupled to the processor and comprising: a flexible display having a top portion and a bottom portion and including a flexible substrate and display circuits mounted on the flexible substrate; a display cylinder, the top portion of the flexible display being mounted inside the display cylinder, the bottom portion of the flexible display being movable from a deployed position in which the bottom portion hangs vertically downward out of the cylinder to a stored position in which the bottom portion is wound up into the cylinder; a spring assembly attached to the display cylinder for winding the flexible display up into the display cylinder; an interlock comprising a hook and a cam attached to the display cylinder for preventing the spring assembly for winding up the flexible display while the flexible display is in use; and electronics attached to the bottom portion of the flexible display and configured to receive control signals from the processor to cause the display to display the visual information received from the information source and for providing weight at least partially causing the display to hang substantially straight; a speaker coupled to the processor, the processor configured to couple audio control signals to the speaker to cause the speaker to output the audio information received from the information source; and a voice processor coupled to the processor and configured to receive a voice command requesting the information from the information source, the RF transceiver further configured to transmit request signals to the information source corresponding to the voice command; and a base station comprising: the information source; a second RF transceiver coupled to the information source configured to receive the voice command and transmit requested information from the information source; a

memory configured to store voice signatures of authorized users of the information source; a processor coupled to the memory and configured to determine the voice command originated from at least one of the authorized users and transmit the information from the information source responsive to the voice command.

24. The information retrieval system of Claim 23 wherein the electronics attached to the bottom portion are located on a strip of the flexible substrate.

[End of the Examiner's amendment].

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 6-7, 9-10, 14-24 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claim 6, Daniels (US Pub No: 2004/0041800) discloses an information retrieval system for outputting information, including audio and visual information, received from an information source, the information retrieval system comprising: an RF transceiver configured to receive the information from the information source over a wireless communication channel; a processor coupled to the RF transceiver (page 9, par. [0088]); Hack (US Pub No: 2003/0109286) discloses a speaker coupled to the processor, the processor configured to couple audio control signals to the speaker to cause the speaker to output the audio information received from the information source (page 3, par. [0035-0038]); and a voice processor coupled to the processor and configured to receive a voice command requesting the

information from the information source, the RF transceiver further configured to transmit request signals to the information source corresponding to the voice command (page 3, par. [0037-0038]). However, either alone or combination of Daniels and Hack do not disclose that a visual display coupled to the processor and comprising: a housing; a flexible substrate having display circuits imprinted thereon to form a flexible display screen, a top portion of the display screen attached to the housing so that the display screen hangs from the housing; and at least one integrated circuit chip mounted on the display screen, the integrated circuit chip configured to receive control signals from the processor to cause the display to display the visual information received from the information source, the integrated circuit chip further acting as a weight at least partially causing the display screen to hang substantially straight from the housing.

Claim 14, Daniels (US Pub No: 2004/0041800) discloses an information retrieval system for outputting information, including audio and visual information, received from an information source, the information retrieval system comprising: a flexible substrate having display circuits carried thereby to form a flexible display screen (page 5, par. [0067]); Hack (US Pub No: 2003/0109286) discloses a speaker coupled to the processor, the processor configured to couple audio control signals to the speaker to cause the speaker to output the audio information received from the information source; and a voice processor coupled to the processor and configured to receive a voice command requesting the information from the information source, the RF transceiver further configured to transmit request signals to the information source corresponding to the voice command (page3, par.

[0035-0038]). However, either alone or combination of Daniels and Hack do not disclose an RF transceiver carried on the flexible substrate and configured to receive the information from the information source over a wireless communication channel; a processor carried on the flexible substrate and coupled to the RF transceiver; a display driver circuit carried on the flexible substrate and coupled to the processor, the display driver circuit operable to receive visual information from the information source through the processor and couple control signals to the display circuits to cause the display circuits to display the visual information received from the information source; said display screen having a free end and said RF transceiver, processor and display driver circuit being carried on the free end of said display screen for serving as a weight to cause said display screen to hang substantially straight.

Claim 23, Daniels (US Pub No: 2004/0041800) discloses an information retrieval system for outputting information, including audio and visual information, received from an information source, the information retrieval system comprising a display station comprising: an RF transceiver configured to receive the information from the information source over a wireless communication channel; a processor coupled to the RF transceiver (page 10, par. [0094]); Hack (US Pub No: 2003/0109286) discloses and a voice processor coupled to the processor and configured to receive a voice command requesting the information from the information source, the RF transceiver further configured to transmit request signals to the information source corresponding to the voice command; and a base station comprising: the information source (page 3, par. [0035-0037]). However, either alone or combination of Daniels and Hack do not disclose a visual display coupled to the processor and comprising: a flexible display having a top portion

and a bottom portion and including a flexible substrate and display circuits mounted on the flexible substrate; a display cylinder, the top portion of the flexible display being mounted inside the display cylinder, the bottom portion of the flexible display being movable from a deployed position in which the bottom portion hangs vertically downward out of the cylinder to a stored position in which the bottom portion is wound up into the cylinder; a spring assembly attached to the display cylinder for winding the flexible display up into the display cylinder; an interlock comprising a hook and a cam attached to the display cylinder for preventing the spring assembly for winding up the flexible display while the flexible display is in use; and electronics attached to the bottom portion of the flexible display and configured to receive control signals from the processor to cause the display to display the visual information received from the information source and for providing weight at least partially causing the display to hang substantially straight; a speaker coupled to the processor, the processor configured to couple audio control signals to the speaker to cause the speaker to output the audio information received from the information source; a second RF transceiver coupled to the information source configured to receive the voice command and transmit requested information from the information source; a memory configured to store voice signatures of authorized users of the information source; a processor coupled to the memory and configured to determine the voice command originated from at least one of the authorized users and transmit the information from the information source responsive to the voice command.

Dependent claims are allowed by the virtue of dependency in independent claims.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to PHUOC H. DOAN whose telephone number is 571-272-7920. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:30 AM - 6:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, VINCENT HARPER can be reached on 571-272-7605. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/VINCENT P. HARPER/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2617

/PHUOC DOAN/
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